

## Message Text

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ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 SS-15 ISO-00 NSC-05 NEA-10 PA-02 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 SAM-01 L-03 /047 R

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APPROVED BY S/PRS - ROBERT L. FUNSETH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 204807 TOSEC 100252

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SOPN (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: TRAVELING PRESS REPORTAGE, EVENING, WEDNESDAY,  
AUGUST 27

FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON FROM S/PRS (FUNSETH)

NO. 24

NEWSPAPERS:

1. LA TIMES (OZZIE JOHNSTON & JACK FOISIE). NEW SINAI  
AGREEMENT IS "A CERTAINTY" WITH ONLY QUESTION WHETHER  
DOCUMENT WILL BE SIGNED BY WEEKEND. SECRETARY AND ALLON  
BOTH SAY PROGRESS IS "REMARKABLE." SECRETARY FEARS CONFLICT  
OVER WHICH PARTS OF AGREEMENT WILL REMAIN SECRET CARRIES  
REAL DANGER OF BREAKDOWN ON BRINK OF SUCCESS. CHIEF SUB-  
JECT OF DISPUTE IS SECRECY OF EGYPTIAN POLITICAL CON-  
CESSIONS, SUCH AS CANAL TRANSIT AND ANTI-ISRAEL BOYCOTT.  
SECRETARY AND AIDES ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY FEARFUL THAT  
PUBLIC POLITICAL CONCESSIONS SO DIFFICULT FOR  
SADAT POLITICALLY, HE WOULD REFUSE DISCLOSURE. PRESSURE  
IS ON ISRAELS TO INSIST THAT PUBLIC AGREEMENT LOOKS AS  
BALANCED IN "COLD PRINT" AS "THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT SECONDED  
BY KISSINGER AND SADAT INSIST IT IS IN REALITY."

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2. WALL STREET JOURNAL (RAY VICKER): EGYPTIAN AND  
ISRAELI GOVERNMENTS APPEAR TO BE CONDITIONING CITIZENS FOR  
A POSSIBLE INITIALING OF AN INTERIM AGREEMENT THIS WEEK-

END, AND SECRETARY'S SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY STEADY WEARING AWAY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE PARTIES. COMMENTS MADE BY EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT TO ARAB PRESS CONTINUALLY EMPHASIZES THAT EGYPT WILL NOT DESERT ITS ALLIES. ISRAELI OFFICIALS ARE TRYING TO CONVINCE ISRAELI PUBLIC ISRAEL ISN'T BOWING TO U.S. PRESSURE OR SACRIFICING ITS INTERESTS IN SINAI WITHDRAWAL. ISRAELIS APPARENTLY ACCEPT INTERIM AGREEMENT ONLY GRUDGINGLY. SURVEY OF 500 PEOPLE SHOWED 46.8 PERCENT FAVOR SINAI AGREEMENT, 39 PERCENT APPROVE AND 14.2 PERCENT UNDECIDED.

WIRES:

1. REUTERS - (NELSON): SECRETARY SHUTTLED BACK FROM EGYPT BEARING NEARLY COMPLETED DRAFT TEXT WITH ONLY THREE OR FOUR PARAGRAPHS SUBJECT TO DISAGREEMENT. HIGH U.S. OFFICIAL SAID DRAFT AGREEMENTS SHOULD BE INITIALLED SUNDAY OR MONDAY. EGYPT IS NOT EVEN ACKNOWLEDGING IT WILL MAKE CONCESSIONS TO ISRAEL. HOWEVER, SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL IN PARTY SAID U.S. EXPECTS TO HAVE A WRITTEN EGYPTIAN COMMITMENT OF GOOD INTENTIONS. ISRAELI OFFICIALS SAID EGYPTIAN ASSURANCES NOT ENFORCEABLE, BUT ISRAEL COULD TURN TO U.S. IN EVENT EGYPT DID NOT FULFILL PLEDGES. ISRAEL DOES NOT EXPECT U.S. TO GUARANTEE PLEDGES BUT WANTS TO BE SURE U.S. WOULD NOT PENALIZE ISRAELIS FOR RETALIATING AGAINST NON-FULFILLMENT.

SENATOR (SIC) OBEY, WHO ARRIVED TONIGHT IN ISRAEL FROM JORDAN WITH TWO OTHER HOUSE FOREIGN OPERATIONS APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS, SAID HE THOUGHT APPROVAL OF U.S. CIVILIANS FOR SINAI WOULD CAUSE "VERY HEATED DEBATE" AND APPROVAL WOULD BE "VERY CLOSE QUESTION."

2. UPI - (GROWALD): SECRETARY RETURNED TO ISRAEL NEAR END OF APPARENTLY SUCCESSFUL SEARCH FOR AGREEMENT. SECRETARY RAN INTO THREAT OF MASSIVE RIGHT-WING DEMONSTRATIONS  
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WITH AS MANY AS 100,000 PREDICTED. SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL SAID SETTLEMENT MAY BE INITIALLED ANYTIME BETWEEN FRIDAY AND MONDAY AND WILL NOT CONTAIN ANY U.S. MILITARY COMMITMENT INCLUDING COMMITMENT TO USE U.S. WARSHIPS TO PROTECT TANKERS BOUND FOR ISRAEL. THE SAME OFFICIAL SAID ONLY ONE OR TWO ITEMS OF CHIEFLY SYMBOLIC SIGNIFICANCE REMAIN TO BE AGREED. THE OFFICIAL SAID U.S. HAD A MORAL COMMITMENT TO SURVIVAL OF ISRAEL AND THAT COMMITMENT STRONGER THAN ANY TREATY OR DOCUMENT, IN PRACTICE.

3. AP - (SCHWEID): SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL SAYS FOLLOWING:-  
ONLY TWO OR THREE PROVISIONS ARE ALL THAT STANDS  
IN THE WAY OF COMPLETING AN AGREEMENT.  
-- INDICATIONS ARE THAT ACCORD WILL BE INITIALLED  
SUNDAY OR MONDAY.  
-- DRAFT IS SETTLED EXCEPT FOR A FEW PARTS "OF AT  
LEAST SYMBOLIC SIGNIFICANCE."  
PREPARATION OF ANNEXES ELABORATING ON THE SETTLEMENT IS  
DELAYING COMPLETION OF SECRETARY'S MISSION. ISRAELI  
AND EGYPTIAN MILITARY COMMANDERS WOULD HAVE TO GET  
TOGETHER NEXT MONTH TO AGREE ON TECHNICAL POINTS. RABIN  
TOLD A LABOR PARTY MEETING THERE WOULD BE NO EGYPTIAN  
FORCES STATIONED ON LAND ;TRIPS LEADING TO THE ABU  
RUDEIS OILFIELDS. "OTHER OFFICIALS" SAID LAND AROUND  
OILFIELDS WOULD COME UNDER EGYPTIAN CIVILIAN RULE AND  
UN SUPERVISION. DEFENSE MINISTER PERES TOLD THE LABOR  
PARTY MEETING ISRAEL WAS GETTING "ALMOST AMERICAN  
INVOLVEMENT" BUT DID NOT ELABORATE.

NETWORKS:

1. ABC EVENING NEWS - REASONER: "SECRETARY OF STATE  
KISSINGER WENT TO ISRAEL TODAY WITH A DRAFT PEACE AGREE-  
  
MENT REPORTED TO BE COMPLETE EXCEPT FOR DIFFERENCES IN  
WORDING OF TWO OR THREE PROVISIONS. MEANWHILE, ISRAELI  
CONSERVATIVES WHO OPPOSE THE AGREEMENT SAY THEY EXPECT  
AS MANY AS 100,000 PEOPLE AT A PROTEST RALLY TOMORROW."  
(NO KOPPEL)

2. NBC EVENING NEWS - BROKAW: "SECRETARY OF STATE  
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KISSINGER IS BACK IN ISRAEL TONIGHT WORKING OUT FINAL  
DETAILS OF AN INTERIM PEACE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ISRAEL  
AND EGYPT. NOW THAT KISSINGER HAS SETTLED THE MAJOR  
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY  
IN THE MAKEUP OF THE SINAI PENINSULA, HE IS CONCEN-  
TRATING ON TECHNICAL MATTERS AND IT APPEARS THE AGREEMENT  
WILL BE INITIALED SOMETIME THIS WEEKEND." (NO VALERIANI)

3. CBS EVENING NEWS - MUDD: "THE EGYPTIAN CABINET TODAY  
APPROVED THE DRAFT OF AN INTERIM SINAI AGREEMENT WITH  
ISRAEL AND SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER SHUTTLED BACK  
TO JERUSALEM TO PRESENT IT TO ISRAELI OFFICIALS ...

BUT AS TOM FENTON REPORTS, A SINAI TREATY MAY NOT BE AS  
BAD FOR ISRAEL AS SOME BELIEVE."

FENTON (AT BEN-GURION AIRPORT): "THE ISRAELI ARMY'S  
GLOOMY ESTIMATE TURNED OUT TO HAVE BEEN EXAGGERATED.  
INSTEAD OF LARGE-SCALE MOBILIZATION, THE CHIEF OF STAFF

NOW SAYS THAT NO NEW MANPOWER AT ALL WILL BE NEEDED TO MAINTAIN A NEW DEFENSE LINE IN THE SINAI. THE ARMY WILL REVERT TO ITS CLASSIC DOCTRINE OF MOBILE DEFENSE, WHICH IT ABANDONED AFTER THE SIX-DAY WAR FOR THE COSTLY AND ILL-FATED CONCEPT OF A FIXED DEFENSE LINE. GIVING UP THE CAPTURED SINAI OILFIELDS MAY NOT BE SUCH A HARDSHIP EITHER. IF WASHINGTON PAYS THE FULL \$300 MILLION THE ISRAELIS ARE ASKING IN ORDER TO BUY REPLACEMENT OIL, THEY MAY EVEN MAKE A PROFIT ON THE DEAL. THE ISRAELIS WERE ALREADY PAYING FOR A LARGE PART OF THE SINAI OIL IN THE FORM OF OPERATING COSTS AND ROYALTIES TO THE ITALIAN COMPANY THAT OWNS THE FIELDS. THE REAL MEANING OF THE AGREEMENT FOR THE ISRAELIS IS THE LOSS OF THE STRATEGIC SINAI PASSES IN RETURN FOR BILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN PROMISED AMERICAN AID... "

RADIO:

1. CBS RADIO, 3:00 PM: DOUGLAS EDWARDS:"THE SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIAL SAYS THE INITIALITY OF THE INTERIM SINAI PACT COULD TAKE PLACE SUNDAY OR MONDAY."

BERNIE KALB: "THIS OPTIMISTIC DISCLOSURE WAS ACCOMPANIED  
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BY THE USUAL CAUTIONARY NOTE THAT THE CURRENT EUPHORIA MAY BE PREMATURE BUT THE ACCENT WAS UNMISTAKEABLY POSITIVE... THE INITIALLING - WHEN IT DOES HAPPEN - WILL NOT BE LIMITED TO PURELY MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES ; THERE WILL ALSO BE WHAT WAS CALLED POLITICAL REPRESENTATION. THIS IS OF PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE TO ISRAEL WHICH SEES THE AGREEMENT AS MORE THAN SIMPLY A MILITARY ACCORD, BUT ONE WITH POLITICAL CONCESSIONS BY EGYPT ..."

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## Message Attributes

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